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NEWS RELEASE

Feb. 3, 1999

CORRECTIONS: The full name of the new Internet news service will be Headwaters News. The Center also hopes to have 10,000 hits per week, instead of 10,000 hits per day. Please use this corrected version.

Contact: Daniel Kemmis, Center for the Rocky Mountain West director, (406) 243-7700, kemmis@crmw.org.

UM CENTER AWARDED GRANT FOR INTERNET NEWS SERVICE

MISSOULA--

The Center for the Rocky Mountain West at The University of Montana has received a three-year \$200,000 grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to start an Internet-based news service.

Center Director Daniel Kemmis said the grant will be used to create Headwaters News, a Web site containing stories of significant interest to people living in the Rocky Mountain West. News items on the site will be updated daily.

"This site will be a good way for people to get a snapshot of what's going on in the region," Kemmis said. "It is an exciting and effective way to help the West understand itself, which is what the center is all about."

Kemmis said center staff hope to have the site available sometime in February. Headwaters News will have its own Web site, and Internet users will be able to link to it from center's Web page at <http://crmw.org>.

The news items for Headwaters News will be gleaned early every morning from online newspapers and magazines across the West. Kemmis said the site will contain a synopsis of the

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major events around the region, as well as direct links to the full text of many stories. It also will link to national publications that cover issues about the Rocky Mountain West. Richard Manning and Tracy Stone-Manning will contract with the center to manage Headwater News.

Kemmis said he hopes Headwaters News will provide a platform for exchange of ideas between citizens and leaders -- giving people a forum for dialogue on public policy issues and linking them with news and information sources. The center's goal is to have 10,000 hits on the Web page per week by the end of Headwaters' first year, as well as an unbroken record of growth in use each month.

Kemmis hopes the news service will attract a core of readers interested in well-written, thoughtful news and analysis of the region's communities, environment and future in the global economy.

Founded at UM in 1992, the Center for the Rocky Mountain West is a regional studies and public policy institute designed to sharpen Westerners' understanding of their region and guide visions for its future.

Based in Menlo Park, Calif., the Hewlett Foundation concentrates its resources and activities in education, performing arts, population, environment, conflict resolution, family and community development, and U.S.-Latin American relations.

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